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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Thorsten BUDDENBERG, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HERewith

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/EP04/05803

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: May 28, 2004

FOR: METHOD FOR TREATING AQUEOUS SLUDGE, MATERIAL SO PRODUCED AND  
THE USE THEREOF

**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS**  
**CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

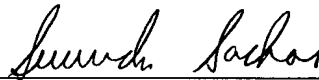
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report according to MPEP §609 and so indicate by a statement in the first Office Action that the information has been considered. When the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates both the search report and copies of the documents are present in the national stage file, there is no requirement for the applicant(s) to submit them (1156 O.G. 91 November 23, 1993).

Respectfully submitted,

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/005803

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C02F11/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C02F B09C C05F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, COMPENDEX, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 462 672 A (IJI MASAHIRO ET AL) 31 October 1995 (1995-10-31)	1-9, 11-14, 18,21
Y	column 4, line 6 - column 6, line 64; claims 1-11; figures 1,14,15; examples 1-3; tables 1-3	10, 15-17,22
X	EP 0 500 199 A (HEGEMANN DETLEF GMBH & CO) 26 August 1992 (1992-08-26) cited in the application	21,22
Y	column 5, line 31 - column 7, line 40; claims 1-23; figure 1	10, 15-17,22
A	GB 1 466 185 A (ANDCO INC) 2 March 1977 (1977-03-02) page 7, lines 17-105; claims 1-32	1-22
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

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\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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\*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 August 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

02/09/2004

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/005803

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 221 956 B1 (CHEN HAUNN-LIN) 24 April 2001 (2001-04-24) claim 35	1-22
A	DE 197 26 899 A (HIRDES GMBH HEINRICH) 15 January 1998 (1998-01-15) cited in the application claims 1-4; figure 1	1-22
A	RAO S RAMACHANDRA: "FLOCCULATION AND DEWATERING OF ALBERTA OIL SANDS TAILINGS" INT J MINER PROCESS OCT 1980, vol. 7, no. 3, October 1980 (1980-10), pages 245-253, XP009035430 abstract	1-22

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Information on patent family members

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